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Lance J.M. Steinhart, P.C. Dept:

Attorney At Law 1720 Windward Concourse Suite 250

Date: 11-20-06

Posted:

Alpharetta, Georgia 30005

lime:

Also Admitted in New York and Maryland

Telephone: (770) 232-9200 Facsimile: (770) 232-9208

November 17, 2006

#### VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Gary Walsh
Executive Director
South Carolina Public Service Commission
111 Doctors Circle
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

Re: Budget Phone, Inc.

Name Change to Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone

Docket Nos. 1999-512-C and 202-291-C

2002.2910

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Pursuant to Commission Order No. 2006-644, enclosed please find for filing an original and five (5) copies of the company's revised tariff reflecting its new name, "Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone".

I have enclosed an extra copy of this letter, along with a self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope for date stamping and return to me by the Commission.

If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance J.M. Steinhart

Attorney for Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone formerly known as Budget Phone, Inc.

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Ron Munn

#### TITLE SHEET

#### SOUTH CAROLINA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service or facilities for Telecommunications Services furnished by Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone ("Budget Phone"), with principal offices at 1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200, Bossier City, Louisiana 71111. This tariff applies for services furnished within the State of South Carolina. This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the company's principal place of business.

#### CONCURRING, CONNECTING OR

#### OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

- 1. Concurring Carriers None
- 2. Connecting Carriers None
- 3. Other Participating Carriers None

#### CHECK SHEET

The Sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

| SHEET            |    | REVISION               |
|------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1                |    | Original               |
| 2<br>3<br>4<br>5 |    | Original               |
| 3<br>4           |    | Original               |
| 4                |    | Original               |
| 5<br>6           |    | Original<br>Original   |
| 7                |    | Original               |
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| 1.4              |    | Original               |
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| 28               |    | Original               |
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| 30               |    | Original               |
| 31<br>32         |    | Original               |
|                  | 0× | Original Revised Sheet |
| * New            | or | VEATRED PHEEF          |

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006 By: Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance

1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200 Bossier City, Louisiana 71111 Phone No.: (318) 671-5000

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#### TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Sheet Numbering: Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between pages 11 and 12 would be page 11.1.
- B. Sheet Revision Numbers: Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each sheet where applicable. These numbers are used to indicate the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Sheet 13 cancels 3rd Revised Sheet 13. Consult the Check Sheet for the sheets currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence: There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:
  - 2.
    2.1
    2.1.1
    2.1.1.A
    2.1.1.A.1
    2.1.1.A.1.(a)
    2.1.1.A.1.(a).I
    2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i)
    2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i)
- D. Check Sheets: When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current Revision Number. When new sheets are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remains the same, just revised revision levels on some sheets). The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on Commission file.

#### SYMBOLS

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- D Delete or Discontinue
- I Change Resulting In An
  - Increase to A Customer's Bill
- M Moved from Another Tariff Location
- N New
- R Change Resulting In A
- Reduction to A Customer's Bill
- T Change in Text or Regulation But No Change In Rate or Charge

#### SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Access Line - An arrangement from a local exchange telephone company or other common carrier, using either dedicated or switched access, which connects a Customer's location to the Company's location or switching center.

Authorization Code - A numerical code, one or more of which may be assigned to a Customer, to enable the Company to identify the origin of the Customer so it may rate and bill the call. Automatic number identification (ANI) is used as the authorization code wherever possible.

<u>Commission</u> - Used throughout this tariff to mean the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Company or Budget Phone - Used throughout this tariff to mean Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone, a Louisiana Corporation.

Customer - The person, firm, corporation or other legal entity which orders the services of the Company or purchases a Company Prepaid Calling Card and/or originates prepaid calls using such cards, and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's tariff regulations.

<u>Dedicated Access</u> - The Customer gains entry to the Company's services by a direct path from the customer's location to the company's point of presence.

Holiday - New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Holidays shall be billed at the evening rate from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. After 11 p.m., the lower night rate shall go into effect.

<u>Prepaid Account</u> - An inventory of Telecom Units purchased in advance by the Customer, and associated with one and only one Authorization Code as contained in a specific Prepaid Calling Card.

Prepaid Calling Card - A card issued by the Company, containing an Authorization Code which identifies a specific Prepaid Account of Telecom Units, which enables calls to be processed, account activity to be logged, and balances to be

maintained, on a prepayment basis.

 $\underline{\text{Resp. Org}}$  - Responsible Organization or entity identified by a Toll-Free service Customer that manages and administers records in the toll free number database and management system.

Switched Access - The Customer gains entry to the company's services by a transmission line that is switched through the local exchange carrier to reach the company's point of presence.

Telecom Unit - A measurement of telecommunications service equivalent to one minute of usage between any two points within the State of South Carolina.

Telecommunications - The transmission of voice communications or, subject to the transmission capabilities of the services, the transmission of data, facsimile, signaling, metering, or other similar communications.

<u>Underlying Carrier</u> - The telecommunications carrier whose network facilities provide the technical capability and capacity necessary for the transmission and reception of Customer telecommunications traffic.

#### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company

This tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to intrastate interexchange telecommunications services provided by the Company for telecommunications between points within the State of South Carolina. Services are furnished subject to the availability of facilities and subject to the terms and conditions of this tariff in compliance with limitations set forth in the Commission's The Company's services are provided on a statewide basis and are not intended to be limited geographically. The Company offers service to all those who desire to purchase service from the Company consistent with all of the provisions of this tariff. Customers interested in the Company's services shall file a service application with the Company which fully identifies the Customer, the services requested and other information requested by the Company. The Company reserves the right to examine the credit record and check the references of all applicants and Customers prior to accepting the service order. The Company may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to a service provided by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangement. Any marketing efforts will clearly indicate to potential customers the nature of the transaction which is being offered. Materials submitted to prospective customers will clearly indicate that those customers will be changing their long distance carrier if they accept such solicitation. As a telephone utility under the regulation of the Commission, the Company does hereby assert and affirm that as a reseller of intrastate telecommunications services it shall not indulge or participate in deceptive or misleading telecommunications marketing practices to the detriment of consumers in South Carolina, and it shall comply with those marketing procedures, if any, set forth by the Commission. Additionally, the Company shall be responsible for the marketing practices of its contracted telemarketers and for their compliance with this provision. The Company understands that violation of this provision could result in a rule to show cause as to the withdrawal of its

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certification to complete intrastate telecommunications traffic within the State of South Carolina.

- The services provided by the Company are not part of a joint undertaking with any other entity providing telecommunications channels, facilities, or services, but may involve the resale of the Message Toll Services (MTS) and Wide Area Telecommunications Services (WATS) of underlying common carriers subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- The rates and regulations contained in this tariff apply only to the services furnished by the Company and do not apply, unless otherwise specified, to the lines, facilities, or services provided by a local exchange telephone company or other common carriers for use in accessing the services of the Company.
- 2.1.3 The Company reserves the right to limit the length of communications, to discontinue furnishing services, or limit the use of service necessitated by conditions beyond its control, including, without limitation: lack of satellite or other transmission medium capacity; the revision, alteration or repricing of the Underlying Carrier's tariffed offerings; or when the use of service becomes or is in violation of the law or the provisions of this tariff.

#### 2.2 Use of Services

2.2.1 The Company's services may be used for any lawful purpose consistent with the transmission and switching parameters of the telecommunications facilities utilized in the provision of services, subject to any limitations set forth in this Section 2.2.

- 2.2.2 The use of the Company's services to make calls which might reasonably be expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another or in such a way as to unreasonably interfere with use by others is prohibited.
- 2.2.3 The use of the Company's services without payment for service or attempting to avoid payment by fraudulent means or devices, schemes, false or invalid numbers, or false calling or credit cards is prohibited.
- 2.2.4 The Company's services are available for use 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
- 2.2.5 The Company does not transmit messages, but the services may be used for that purpose.
- 2.2.6 The Company's services may be denied for nonpayment of charges or for other violations of this tariff.
- 2.2.7 Customers shall not use the service provided under this tariff for any unlawful purpose.
- 2.2.8 The Customer is responsible for notifying the Company immediately of any unauthorized use of services.

#### 2.3 Liability of the Company

2.3.1 The Company shall not be liable for any claim, loss, expense or damage for any interruption, delay, error, omission, or defect in any service, facility or transmission provided under this tariff, if caused by the Underlying Carrier, an act of God, fire, war, civil disturbance, act of government, or due to any other causes beyond the Company's control.

- The Company shall not be liable for, and shall be fully indemnified and held harmless by the Customer against any claim, loss, expense, or damage for defamation, libel, slander, invasion, infringement of copyright or patent, unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name or service mark, proprietary or creative right, or any other injury to any person, property or entity arising out of the material, data or information transmitted.
- 2.3.3 No agent or employee of any other carrier or entity shall be deemed to be an agent or employee of the Company.
- The Company's liability for damages, resulting in whole or in part from or arising in connection with the furnishing of service under this tariff, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or other defects or misrepresentations shall not exceed an amount equal to the charges provided for under this tariff for the long distance call for the period during which the call was affected. No other liability in any event shall attach to the Company.
- 2.3.5 The Company shall not be liable for and shall be indemnified and saved harmless by any Customer or by any other entity from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other action or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any Customer or any other entity for any personal injury to, or death of, any person or persons, and for any loss, damage, defacement or destruction of the premises of any Customer or any other entity or any other property whether owned or controlled by the Customer or others.

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- 2.3.6 The Company shall not be liable for any indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages under this tariff including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, for any reason whatsoever, including the breakdown of facilities associated with the service, or for any mistakes, omissions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission occurring during the course of furnishing service.
- 2.3.7 The remedies set forth herein are exclusive and in lieu of all other warranties and remedies, whether express, implied, or statutory, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

#### 2.4 Responsibilities of the Customer

- 2.4.1 The Customer is responsible for placing any necessary orders and complying with tariff regulations. The Customer is also responsible for the payment of charges for services provided under this tariff.
- 2.4.2 The Customer is responsible for charges incurred for special construction and/or special facilities which the Customer requests and which are ordered by the Company on the Customer's behalf.
- 2.4.3 If required for the provision of the Company's services, the Customer must provide any equipment space, supporting structure, conduit and electrical power without charge to the Company.
- 2.4.4 The Customer is responsible for arranging access to its premises at times mutually agreeable to the Company and the Customer when required for Company personnel to install, repair, maintain, program, inspect or remove equipment associated with the provision of the Company's services.

- The Customer shall cause the temperature and 2.4.5 relative humidity in the equipment space provided by Customer for the installation of the Company's equipment to be maintained within the range normally provided for the operation of microcomputers.
- The Customer shall ensure that the equipment 2.4.6 and/or system is properly interfaced with the Company's facilities or services, that the signals emitted into the Company's network are of the proper mode, bandwidth, power and signal level for the intended use of the subscriber and in compliance with criteria set forth in this tariff, and that the signals do not damage equipment, injure personnel, or degrade service to other Customers. If the Federal Communications Commission or some other appropriate certifying body certifies terminal equipment as being technically acceptable for direct electrical connection with interstate communications service, the Company will permit such equipment to be connected with its channels without the use of protective interface devices. If the Customer fails to maintain the equipment and/or the system properly, with resulting imminent harm to the Company equipment, personnel or the quality of service to other Customers, the Company may, upon written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense. If this fails to produce satisfactory quality and safety, the Company may, upon written notice, terminate the Customer's service.
- The Customer must pay the Company for 2.4.7 replacement or repair of damage to the equipment or facilities of the Company caused by negligence or willful act of the Customer or others, by improper use of the services, or by use of equipment provided by Customer or others.

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- theft of any Company equipment installed at Customer's premises.
- If the Company installs equipment at 2.4.9 Customer's premises, the Customer shall be responsible for payment of any applicable installation charge.
- The Customer must use the services offered in 2.4.10 this tariff in a manner consistent with the terms of this tariff and the policies and regulations of all state, federal and local authorities having jurisdiction over the service.

#### Cancellation or Interruption of Services 2.5

- Without incurring liability, upon five (5) 2.5.1 working days' (defined as any day on which the company's business office is open and the U.S. Mail is delivered) written notice to the Customer, the Company may immediately discontinue services to a Customer or may withhold the provision of ordered or contracted services:
  - For nonpayment of any sum due the 2.5.1.A Company for more than thirty (30) days after issuance of the bill for the amount due,
  - For violation of any of the 2.5.1.B provisions of this tariff,
  - 2.5.1.C For violation of any law, rule, regulation, policy of any governing authority having jurisdiction over the Company's services, or
  - By reason of any order or decision 2.5.1.D of a court, state or federal regulatory body or other governing authority prohibiting the Company from furnishing its services. Service will be terminated only on Monday through Thursday between the

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hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm unless provisions have been made to have someone available to accept payment and reconnect service.

- 2.5.2 Without incurring liability, the Company may interrupt the provision of services at any time in order to perform tests and inspections to assure compliance with tariff regulations and the proper installation and operation of Customer and the Company's equipment and facilities and may continue such interruption until any items of noncompliance or improper equipment operation so identified are rectified.
  - 2.5.3 Service may be discontinued by the Company without notice to the Customer, by blocking traffic to certain countries, cities or NXX exchanges, or by blocking calls using certain Customer authorization codes, when the Company deems it necessary to take such action to prevent unlawful use of its service. The Company will restore service as soon as it can be provided without undue risk, and will, upon request by the Customer affected, assign a new authorization code to replace the one that has been deactivated.
  - The Customer may terminate service upon thirty (30) days written or oral notice for the Company's standard month to month contract. Customer will be liable for all usage on any of the Company's service offerings until the Customer actually leaves the service. Customers will continue to have Company usage until the Customer notifies its local exchange carrier and changes its long distance carrier. Until the Customer so notifies its local exchange carrier, it shall continue to generate and be responsible for long distance usage.

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#### 2.6 Credit Allowance

- 2.6.1 Credit may be given for disputed calls, on a per call basis.
- 2.6.2 Credit shall not be issued for unavailability of long distance services.

#### 2.7 Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of service shall be in accordance with the priority system specified in part 64, Subpart D of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

#### 2.8 Deposit

The Company does not require deposits.

#### 2.9 Payment and Billing

- 2.9.1 Service is provided and billed on a billing cycle basis, beginning on the date that service becomes effective. Billing is payable upon receipt. All of the company's payment and billing practices will conform with Commission rules and regulations, including Rule 103-622.
- The customer is responsible for payment of 2.9.2 all charges for services furnished to the Customer, as well as to all persons using the Customer's codes, exchange lines, facilities, or equipment, with or without the knowledge or consent of the Customer. The security of the Customer's Authorization Codes, presubscribed exchange lines, and direct connect facilities is the responsibility of the Customer. All calls placed using direct connect facilities, presubscribed exchange lines, or Authorization Codes will be billed to and must be paid by the Customer. Charges based on actual usage during a month and any accrued interest will be billed monthly in arrears.
- 2.9.3 All bills are presumed accurate, and shall be binding on the customer unless objection is received by the Company in writing or orally within the applicable statute of limitations. No credits, refunds, or adjustments shall be granted if demand therefore is not received by the Company in writing within such limitation period.

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#### 2.10 Collection Costs

In the event Company is required to initiate legal proceedings to collect any amounts due to Company for regulated or non-regulated services, equipment or facilities, or to enforce any judgment obtained against a Customer, or for the enforcement of any other provision of this tariff or applicable law, Customer shall, in addition to all amounts due, be liable to Company for all reasonable costs incurred by Company in such proceedings and enforcement actions, including reasonable attorneys' fees, collection agency fees or payments, and court costs. In any such proceeding, the amount of collection costs, including attorneys' fees, due to the Company, will be determined by the court.

#### 2.11 Taxes

All federal, state and local taxes, assessments, surcharges, or fees, including sales taxes, use taxes, and municipal utilities taxes, are billed as separate line items and are not included in the rates quoted herein.

#### 2.12 Late Charge

A one-time late fee of 1.5% monthly or the amount otherwise authorized by law, whichever is lower, may be added to any unpaid balance brought forward from the previous month's billing date.

#### 2.13 Returned Check Charge

A fee will be charged whenever a check or draft presented for payment for service is not accepted by the institution on which it is written, however, the charge may equal but not exceed the rate allowed by S.C. Code Annotated Section 34-11-70.

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#### SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

#### 3.1 Computation of Charges

- 3.1.1 The total charge for each completed call may be a variable measured charge dependent on the duration, distance and time of day of the call. The total charge for each completed call may also be dependent only on the duration of the call, i.e. a statewide flat rate per minute charge. The variable measured charge is specified as a rate per minute which is applied to each minute. All calls are measured in increments as set forth in the Rates Section of this tariff. All calls are rounded up to the next whole increment.
- Where mileage bands appear in a rate table, 3.1.2 rates for all calls are based upon the airline distance between the originating and terminating points of the call, as determined by the vertical and horizontal coordinates associated with the exchange (the area code and three digit central office code) associated with the originating and terminating telephone numbers. If the Customer obtains access to the Company's network by a dedicated access circuit, that circuit will be assigned an exchange for rating purposes based upon the Customer's main telephone number at the location where the dedicated access circuit terminates. vertical and horizontal (V & H) coordinates for each exchange and the airline distance between them will be determined according to industry standards.

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3.1.3 Timing begins when the called station is answered and two way communication is possible, as determined by standard industry methods generally in use for ascertaining answer, including hardware answer supervision in which the local telephone company sends a signal to the switch or the software utilizing audio tone detection. Recognition of answer supervision is the responsibility of the Underlying Carrier. Timing for each call ends when either party hangs up. The Company will not bill for uncompleted calls.

#### 3.2 Customer Complaints and/or Billing Disputes

Customer inquiries or complaints regarding service or accounting may be made in writing or by telephone to the Company at:

1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200 Bossier City, Louisiana 71111 Customer Service: (888) 424-5588

Any objection to billed charges should be reported promptly to the Company. Adjustments to Customers' bills shall be made to the extent that records are available and/or circumstances exist which reasonably indicate that such charges are not in accordance with approved rates or that an adjustment may otherwise be appropriate. Where overbilling of a subscriber occurs, due either to Company or subscriber error, no liability exists which will require the Company to pay any interest, dividend or other compensation on the amount overbilled; provided, however, in the event that the Company has willfully overcharged any Customer, the Company shall refund the difference, plus interest, as prescribed by the Commission.

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All Customer complaints are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission which may be contacted at the following address and telephone number:

State of South Carolina
Public Service Commission
PO Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211
800-922-1531

If a Customer accumulates more than One Dollar of undisputed delinquent Company 800 Service charges, the Company Resp. Org. reserves the right not to honor that Customer's request for a Resp. Org. change until such undisputed charges are paid in full.

#### 3.3 Level of Service

A Customer can expect end to end network availability of not less than 99% at all times for all services.

#### 3.4 Billing Entity Conditions

When billing functions on behalf of the Company or its intermediary are performed by local exchange telephone companies or others, the payment of charge conditions and regulations of such companies and any regulations imposed upon these companies by regulatory bodies having jurisdiction apply. The Company's name and toll-free telephone number will appear on the Customer's bill.

#### 3.5 Service Offerings

#### 3.5.1 1+ Dialing

This service permits Customers to originate calls via switched or dedicated access lines, and to terminate intrastate calls. The Customer dials "1+" followed by "ten digits" or dials "101XXXX" followed by "1+ ten digits".

#### 3.5.2 Travel Cards

The Customer utilizes an 11 digit "toll-free" access number established by the Company to access a terminal. Upon receiving a voice prompt, the Customer uses push button dialing to enter an identification code assigned by the Company, and the ten digit number of the called party.

#### 3.5.3 Toll-Free Service

This service is inbound calling only where an 800, 888 or other toll-free prefix number rings into a Customer's premise routed to a specific telephone number or terminated over a dedicated facility.

#### 3.5.4 Company Prepaid Calling Cards

This service permits use of Prepaid Calling Cards for placing long distance calls. Customers may purchase Company Prepaid Calling Cards at a variety of retail outlets or through other distribution channels. Company Prepaid Calling Card service is accessed using the Company toll-free number printed on the card. The caller is prompted by an automated voice response system to enter his/her Authorization Code, and then to enter the terminating telephone number. Company's processor tracks the call duration on a real time basis to determine the number of Telecom Units consumed. The total consumed Telecom Units and applicable taxes for each call are deducted from the remaining Telecom Unit balance on the Customer's Company Prepaid Calling Card.

All calls must be charged against Prepaid Calling Card that has a sufficient Telecom Unit balance. A Customer's call will be interrupted with an announcement when the balance is about to be depleted.

When the balance is depleted, the Customer can either call the toll-free number on the back of the Company Prepaid Calling Card and "recharge" the balance on the card using a nationally recognized credit card, or the Customer can throw the card away and purchase a new one. Calls in progress will be terminated by the Company if the balance on the Company Prepaid Calling Card is insufficient to continue the call.

A card will expire on the date indicated on the card, or if no date is specified, 6 months from the date of purchase, or the date of last recharge, whichever is later.

A credit allowance for Company Prepaid Calling Card Service is applicable to calls

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that are interrupted due to poor transmission, one-way transmission, or involuntary disconnection of a call. To receive the proper credit, the Customer must notify the Company at the designated toll-free customer service number printed on the Company Prepaid Calling Card and furnish the called number, the trouble experienced (e.g. cut-off, noisy circuit, etc.), and the approximate time that the call was placed.

When a call charged to a Company Prepaid Calling Card is interrupted due to cut-off, one-way transmission, or poor transmission conditions, the Customer will receive a credit equivalent of one Telecom Unit and applicable per call charges and fees.

Credit allowances for calls pursuant to Company Prepaid Card Service do not apply for interruptions not reported promptly to the Company or interruptions that are due to the failure of power, equipment or systems not provided by the Company.

Credit for failure of service shall be allowed only when such failure is caused by or occurs due to causes within the control of the Company.

The Company will block all calls beginning with the NPA "900" and NXX "976" calls, therefore such calls can not be completed.

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The Company agrees to indemnify Customers should Prepaid Card Service no longer be offered and the Customer holds cards containing unused Telecom Units. The Company agrees to refund any amounts remaining on a Prepaid Calling Card upon physical return of the card. Refund will only be issued upon a showing that the service provided by Company has failed to meet either the service requirements set forth in the Commission's Rules and Regulations, or the general standards of quality applicable to the industry. To qualify for a refund, a user must return the card to the Company within three months of the original purchase and submit in writing detailed information on the basis for any requested refund. The Company will promptly investigate and advise the user as to its findings and disposition.

#### 3.5.5 Directory Assistance.

Access to long distance directory assistance is obtained by dialing 1 + 555-1212 for listings within the originating area code and 1 + (area code) + 555-1212 for other listings. When more than one number is requested in a single call, a charge will apply for each number requested. A charge will be applicable for each number requested, whether or not the number is listed or published.

3.5.6 Specialized Pricing Arrangements.

Customized service packages and competitive pricing packages at negotiated rates may be furnished on a case-by-case basis in response to requests by Customers to the Company for proposals or for competitive bids. offered under this tariff provision will be provided to Customers pursuant to contract. Unless otherwise specified, the regulations for such arrangements are in addition to the applicable regulations and prices in other sections of the tariff. Specialized rates or charges will be made available to similarly situated Customers on a non-discriminatory basis. All individual case basis arrangements will be submitted to the Commission for approval.

3.5.7 Emergency Call Handling Procedures

Emergency "911" calls are not routed to company, but are completed through the local network at no charge.

3.5.8 Promotional Offerings

The Company may, from time to time, make promotional offerings to enhance the marketing of its services. These offerings may be limited to certain dates, times and locations. The Company will notify the Commission of such offerings at least 14 days prior to the effective date of such offerings.

#### SECTION 4 - CURRENT RATES

#### 4.1 1+ Dialing

\$0.150 per minute

A \$4.95 per month service charge applies. Billed in one minute increments.

#### 4.2 Travel Cards

\$.199 per minute

A \$.25 per call service charge applies. Billed in one minute increments.

#### 4.3 Toll Free

\$0.150 per minute

A \$10 per month per number service charge applies. Billed in one minute increments.

Phone No.: (318) 671-5000

#### 4.4 Prepaid Calling Cards

The sale of prepaid calling cards or debit card services to distributors of such cards will be done on an individual case basis. The retail price of individual cards for distributors will be established by agreement between the Company and the distributor or other purchaser and is designed to afford a distributor or other purchaser greater pricing flexibility. All rates, terms and conditions for prepaid calling card or debit card services will conform in all respects to this tariff and will be clearly outlined on the card, product packaging or point of sale materials, as required by Commission rules and regulations. The maximum per minute price for any card is \$.50. In addition, the following may apply:

A \$.59 per call service charge applies.

A \$.99 per month maintenance fee applies.

## 4.5 Directory Assistance \$.95

### 4.6 Returned Check Charge

\$20.00

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

By: Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance
1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200

Bossier City, Louisiana 71111

Phone No.: (318) 671-5000

SOUTH CAROLINA PSC TARTER NO. .

#### 4.7 Rate Periods

|                          | Monday - Friday     | Sat.   | Sun.                      |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| 8 a.m.<br>to<br>5 p.m.*  | Daytime Rate Period |        |                           |
| 5 p.m.<br>to<br>11 p.m.* | Evening Rate Period |        | Evening<br>Rate<br>Period |
| 11 p.m.<br>to<br>8 a.m.* | Night/Weekend Rate  | Period |                           |

\* To, but not including

When a message spans more than one rate period, total charges for the minutes in each rate period are calculated and the results for each rate period are totaled to obtain the total message charge. If the calculation results in a fractional charge, the amount will be rounded down to the lower cent.

#### 4.8 Payphone Dial Around Surcharge

A dial around surcharge of \$.30 per call will be added to any completed INTRAstate toll access code and subscriber toll-free 800/888 type calls placed from a public or semipublic payphone.

#### 4.9 Universal Service Fund Assessment

The Customer will be assessed a monthly Universal Service Fund Contribution charge on all telecommunications services, which in no event shall be less than the prevailing contribution percentage rate charged the Company on intrastate traffic by the Universal Service Administrative Company (or any successor) or any state agency or its administrator.

Bossier City, Louisiana 71111 Phone No.: (318) 671-5000

#### SECTION 5 - MAXIMUM RATES

#### 5.1 1 + & 101XXXX Dialing

\$0.30 per minute
A \$10 per month per number service charge

#### 5.2 Travel Cards

\$0.50 per minute
A \$.50 per call service charge

#### 5.3 Toll Free Service

\$0.30 per minute A \$10 per month per number service charge

#### 5.4 Prepaid Calling Cards

\$1.00 per minute A \$1.00 per call service charge

#### 5.5 Directory Assistance

\$1.99

#### TITLE SHEET

#### SOUTH CAROLINA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service for Telecommunications Services furnished by Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone, with principal offices at 1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200, Bossier City, Louisiana 71111. This tariff applies for services furnished within the state of South Carolina. This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the company's principal place of business.

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

# CONCURRING, CONNECTING OR OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

- 1. Concurring Carriers None
- 2. Connecting Carriers None
- 3. Other participating Carriers None

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

#### **CHECK SHEET**

The Sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheets. Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

| 1     | Original    |  |  |
|-------|-------------|--|--|
| 2     | Original    |  |  |
| 3     | 2nd Revised |  |  |
| 4     | Original    |  |  |
| 5     | Original    |  |  |
| 6     | Original    |  |  |
| 7     | Original    |  |  |
| 8     | Original    |  |  |
| 9     | Original    |  |  |
| 10    | Original    |  |  |
| 11    | Original    |  |  |
| 12    | Original    |  |  |
| 13    | Original    |  |  |
| 14    | Original    |  |  |
| 15    | Original    |  |  |
| 16    | Original    |  |  |
| 17    | Original    |  |  |
| 18    | Original    |  |  |
| 19    | 1st Revised |  |  |
| 20    | 2nd Revised |  |  |
| 20.1  | 1st Revised |  |  |
| 20.2  | 1st Revised |  |  |
| 20.2a | Original    |  |  |
| 20.2b | Original    |  |  |
| 20.3  | 1st Revised |  |  |
| 20.4  | Original    |  |  |
| 20.5  | Original    |  |  |
| 21    | Original    |  |  |
| 22    | Original    |  |  |
| 23    | 1st Revised |  |  |
| 23.1  | Original    |  |  |
| 23.2  | Original    |  |  |
| 23.3  | Original    |  |  |
| 23.4  | Original    |  |  |
| 24    | Original    |  |  |
|       | + NT        |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup> New or Revised Sheet

Issued: August 22, 2006

Effective: September 1, 2006

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#### TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Sheet Numbering: Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially; however, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between pages 11 and 12 would be 11.1.
- B. Sheet Revision Numbers: Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each sheet where applicable. These numbers are used to indicate the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Sheet 13 cancels 3rd Revised Sheet 13.

  Consult the Check Sheet for the sheets currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence: There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:

2.

2.1

2.1.1

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2.1.1.A.1

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2.1.1.A.1.(a).I

2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i)

2.1.1.A.1.(a)I.(i).(1)

D. Check Sheets: When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current Revision Number When new sheets are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e.: the format, etc. remains the same, just revised revision levels on some sheets). The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on Commission file.

## **SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

D - Delete or Discontinue

I - Change Resulting in an Increase to a Customer's Bill

M - Moved from another Tariff Location

N - New

R - Change resulting in a Reduction to a Customer's Bill

T Change in Text or Regulation, but no change in Rate or Charge

## SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- <u>Access Line</u> An arrangement from a local exchange telephone company or other common carrier, using either dedicated or switched access.
- <u>Authorization Code</u> A numerical code, one or more of which may be assigned to a Customer, to enable Budget to identify the origin of the Customer so it may rate and bill the call. Automatic number identification (ANI) is used as the authorization code wherever possible.
- <u>Commission</u> Used throughout this tariff to mean the South Carolina Public Service Commission
- <u>Company or Budget</u> Used throughout this tariff to mean Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone a Louisiana Corporation.
- <u>Customer</u> The person or other legal entity which orders the services and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's tariff regulations.
- <u>Dedicated Access</u> The customer gains entry to the Company's services by a direct path from the customer's location to the company's point of presence.
- Resp. Org. Responsible Organization or entity identified by an 800 service Customer that manages and administers records in the 800 database and management system.

<u>Telecommunications</u> – The transmission of voice communications or, subject to the transmission capabilities of the services, the transmission of data, facsimile, signaling, meters, or other similar communications.

<u>Underlying Carrier</u> – The telecommunications carrier whose network facilities provide the technical capability and capacity necessary for the transmission and reception of Customer telecommunications traffic.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

#### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### 2.1 <u>Undertaking of the Company</u>

This tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to local resale telecommunications services provided by Budget for telecommunications between points within the State of South Carolina. Resale services are furnished subject to the availability of facilities and subject to the terms and conditions of this tariff in compliance with limitations set forth in the Commission's rules. The Company's services are provided on a statewide basis and are not intended to be limited geographically. The Company offers service to all those who desire to purchase service from the Company consistent with all of the provisions of this tariff. Customers interested in the Company's services shall file a service application with the Company which fully identifies the Customer, the services requested and other information requested by the Company.

The Company reserves the right to examine the credit record and check the references of all applicants and Customers prior to accepting the service order. The service application shall not in itself obligate the Company to provide services or to continue to provide service if a later check of applicant's credit record is, in the opinion of the Company, contrary to the best interest of the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangement. Any marketing efforts will clearly indicate to potential customers the nature of the transaction which is being offered. As a telephone utility under the regulation of the Commission, Budget does hereby assert and affirm that as a reseller of Local telecommunications services it shall not indulge or participate in deceptive

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance 1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200 Bossier City, Louisiana 71111 or misleading telecommunications marketing practices to the detriment of consumers in South Carolina, and it shall comply with those marketing procedures, if any, set forth by the Commission.

Additionally, Budget shall be responsible for the marketing practices of its contracted dealers and for their compliance with this provision. Budget understands that violation of this provision could result in a rule to show cause as to the withdrawal of its certification to complete local telecommunications traffic within the State of South Carolina.

- 2.1.1 The services provided by Budget are not part of a joint undertaking with any other entity providing telecommunications channels, facilities or services.
- 2.1.2 The rates and regulations contained in this tariff apply only to the resale services furnished by Budget and do not apply, unless otherwise specified, to the lines, facilities or services provided by a local exchange telephone company or other common carrier for use in accessing the services of Budget.
- 2.1.3 The Company reserves the right to limit the length of communications, to discontinue furnishing services, or limit the use of service necessitated by conditions beyond its control including without limitation: lack of satellite or other transmission medium capacity; the revision, alteration or re-pricing of the Underlying Carrier's tariffed offerings; or when the use of service becomes or is in violation of the law or the provisions of this tariff.

## 2.2 Use of Services

- 2.2.1 Budget's services may be used for any lawful purpose consistent with the transmission and switching parameters of the telecommunications facilities utilized in the provision of services, subject to any limitations set forth in this Section 2.2
- 2.2.2 The use of Budget's services to make calls which might reasonably be expected to frighten, abuse, torment or harass another or in such a way as to unreasonably interfere with use by others is prohibited.
- 2.2.3 The use of Budget's services without payment for service or attempting to avoid payment by fraudulent means or devices, schemes, false or invalid numbers, or false calling or credit cards is prohibited.
- 2.2.4 Budget's services are available for use 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
- 2.2.5 Budget does not transmit messages, but the services may be used for that purpose.
- 2.2.6 Budget's services may be denied for nonpayment of charges or for other violations of this tariff.
- 2.2.7 Customers shall not use the service provided under this tariff for any unlawful purpose.
- 2.2.8 The customer is responsible for notifying the Company immediately of any unauthorized use of services.

# 2.3 <u>Liability of the Company</u>

2.3.1 The Company shall not be liable for any claim, loss, expense or damage for any interruption, delay, error, omission, or defect in any service, facility or transmission provided under this tariff, if caused by

- the Underlying Carrier, an act of God, fire, war, civil disturbance, act of government, or due to any other causes beyond the Company's control.
- 2.3.2 The Company shall not be liable for, and shall be fully indemnified and held harmless by the Customer against any claim, loss, expense, or damage for defamation, libel, slander, invasion, infringement of copyright or patent, unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name or service mark, proprietary or creative right, or any other injury to any person, property or entity arising out of the material, data or information transmitted.
- 2.3.3 No agent or employee of any other carrier or entity shall be deemed to be an agent or employee of the Company.
- 2.3.4 The Company's liability for damages, resulting in whole or in part from or arising in connection with the furnishing of service under this tariff, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or other defects or misrepresentations shall not exceed an amount equal to the charges provided for under this tariff for the monthly service charge for the period during which the call was affected. No other liability in any event shall attach to the Company
- 2.3.5 The Company shall not be liable for and shall be indemnified and saved harmless by any Customer or by any other entity from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other action or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any Customer or any other entity or any other property whether owned or controlled by the Customer or others.
- 2.3.6 The Company shall not be liable for any indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages under this tariff including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, for any reason whatsoever, including the

- breakdown of facilities associated with the service, or for any mistakes, omissions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission occurring during the course of furnishing service.
- 2.3.7 The remedies set forth herein are excluding and in lieu of all other warranties and remedies, whether express, implied, or statutory, including without limitation implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.

## 2.4 Responsibilities of the Customer

- 2.4.1 The Customer is responsible for placing any necessary orders and complying with tariff regulations. The Customer is also responsible for the payment of charges for services provided under this tariff.
- 2.4.2 The Customer is responsible for charges incurred for special construction and/or special facilities which the Customer requests and which are ordered by Budget on the Customer's behalf.
- 2.4.3 The Customer must use the services offered in this tariff in a manner consistent with the terms of this tariff and the policies and regulations of all state, federal and local authorities having jurisdiction over the service.

# 2.5 <u>Cancellation or Interruption of Services</u>

2.5.1 Without incurring liability, upon five (5) working days, defined as any day on which the company's business office is open and U. S. Mail is delivered, written notice to the Customer, Budget may immediately discontinue services to a Customer or may withhold the provision of ordered or contracted services:

- 2.5.1.A For non-payment of any sum due Budget for more than ten (10) days after issuance of the bill for the amount due,
- 2.5.1.B For violation of any of the provisions of this tariff,
- 2.5.1.C For violation of any law, rule, regulation, policy of any governing authority having jurisdiction over Budget's services, or
- 2.5.1.D By reason of any order or decision of a court, state or federal regulatory body or other governing authority prohibiting Budget from furnishing its services.
- 2.5.2 Without incurring liability, Budget may interrupt the provision of services at any time in order to perform tests and inspections to assure compliance with tariff operation of Customer and Budget's equipment and may continue such interruption until any items of noncompliance or improper equipment operation so identified are rectified.
- 2.5.3 The Customer may terminate service upon thirty (30) days written or oral notice for the Company's standard month-to-month contract.
  Customer will be liable for all usage on any of the Company's service offerings until the Customer actually leaves the service.
- 2.6 Credit Allowance

N/A

#### 2.7 Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of service shall be in accordance with the priority system specified in part 64, Subpart D of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

#### 2.8 Deposit

The Company does not require deposits.

#### Payment and Billing 2.9

- 2.9.1 Service is provided and billed on a billing cycle basis, beginning on the date that service becomes effective. Billing is payable upon the same date each month.
- 2.9.2 The customer is responsible for payment of all charges for services furnished to the customer. Recurring charges and non-recurring charges are billed in advance. The initial billing may, at Company's option, also include one month's estimated usage billed in advance. Thereafter, charges based on actual usage during a month and any accrued interest will be billed monthly in advance.
- 2.9.3 All bills are presumed accurate, and shall be binding on the customer unless objection is received by the Company, oral or in writing, within the applicable statute of limitations. No credits, refunds, or adjustments shall be granted unless and until proper documentation is received/prepared by the Company within such limitation period.

#### 2.10 Collection Costs

In the event Company is required to initiate legal proceedings to collect any amounts due to Company for regulated or non-regulated services, equipment or facilities, or to enforce any judgment obtained against a Customer, or for the enforcement of any other provision of this tariff or applicable law, Customer shall, in addition to all amounts due, be liable to Company for all

Effective: December 4, 2006 Issued: November 20, 2006

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Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone

reasonable costs incurred by Company in such proceedings and enforcement actions, including reasonable attorneys' fees, collection agency fees or payments and court costs. In any such proceeding, the amount of collection costs, including attorneys' fees, due to the Company will be determined by the court.

2.11 <u>Taxes</u>

All federal, state and local taxes, assessments, surcharges, and fees, including sales taxes, use taxes, gross receipts taxes and municipal utilities taxes are billed as separate line items and are not included in the rates quoted herein.

2.12 Late Charge

A one-time late fee of \$10.00 monthly or the amount otherwise authorized by law, whichever is lower, may be added to any unpaid balance brought forward from the previous month's billing date.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

#### SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

#### 3.1 Computation of Charges

3.1.1 Basic service is a bundled pre-paid plan available to all residential customers residing in the Bell South, Sprint and Verizon exchanges of South Carolina. The Monthly Access Fee for basic service provides a Customer with single, voice grade dial tone line, which allows unlimited local calls on a flat or measured rate basis and includes sixty (60) minutes of intra and interlata Long Distance¹ calling within the Continental United States per billing cycle. Basic Service is provided with touch-tone as a standard feature. Basic Service is available with the optional features listed in Section 3.1.2. The optional feature charges will be applied in addition to the Monthly Access Fee.

 $^{\rm I}$  Long Distance calculated at a rate of \$0.019 pre minute of usage with a \$.25 surcharge for each completed call.

| 3.1.2 The rates for local service and custom calling services are outlined below.  Local Phone Service Rate schedule 4.B  BellSouth Markets |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Monthly Charges  Monthly Access Fee   | \$59.95<br>\$49.95 w/ prompt pay discount |  |  |  |
| Deluxe Unlimited Voice Plan   | \$79.95<br>\$69.95 w/ prompt pay discount |  |  |  |
| Deluxe Voice Plan   | \$79.95<br>\$69.95 w/ prompt pay discount |  |  |  |
| Bonus Plan  | \$59.95<br>\$49.95 w/ prompt pay discount |  |  |  |
| Double Feature Plan   | \$52.95<br>\$42.95 w/prompt pay discount  |  |  |  |
| Deluxe 2000 Plan  | \$10.00                                   |  |  |  |
| Custom Calling Features (Monthl   | у)  |  |  |  |
| Call Forwarding<br>Call Waiting   | \$ 5.00<br>\$ 5.00                        |  |  |  |
| Three-Way Calling<br>Non-published Number<br>Speed Dialing  | \$ 5.00<br>\$ 5.00<br>\$ 5.00             |  |  |  |

Inside Wiring
Service Initiation Charges

Local Optional Service

Call Return

Caller ID

Non - Recurring Charge\$50.00Activation Fee\$20.00Transfer\$39.95Number Change\$30.00Calling Feature\$15.00

**Directory Assistance** 

Local: \$1.00 National: \$1.75

\$ 8.00

\$10.00

\$20.00

\$ 4.99

## 3.1.3 Budget Phone Bonus Plan

The Budget Phone Bonus Plan is a bundled pre-paid residential service Plan offered on a flat or measured rate basis and includes sixty (60) minutes of intra and interlata Long Distance¹ calling within the Continental United States per billing cycle. The Bonus Plan, along with its individual components, is available in the Bell South UNE Zone 1 and Verizon exchanges of South Carolina as defined by the Incumbent LEC. Budget Phone reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to alter, change, or substitute individual features. Customers must access Budget Phone's Long Distance platform by first dialing a toll free number and then must dial the ten-digit (10) termination number in order to complete the call. The Plan includes an additional 250 minutes of continental intrastate long distance usage for the first two (2) consecutive months of service (certain restrictions, as outlined below, do apply).2 The customer has the option to continue to receive an additional 250 minutes of continental intrastate long distance usage for an additional charge of \$5.00 per billing cycle. This plan does not provide for call detail information on the Customers monthly bill.

1-2 Long Distance calculated at a rate of \$0.019 pre minute of usage with a \$.25 surcharge for each completed call.

The Bonus Plan includes the following (available on a where offered basis):

- (1) Local dial-tone line
- (2) Sixty (60) minutes of intra/interlata Long Distance calling within the Continental United States per billing cycle
- (3) Call Waiting
- (4) Three Way Calling
- (5) Caller ID
- (6) An additional 250 minutes of long distance for calls terminating within the continental United States (included at no addition charge for the first two (2) consecutive months of service)

## 3.1.4 Budget Phone Deluxe Unlimited Voice Plan

The Budget Phone Deluxe Unlimited Voice Plan is a bundled pre-paid plan offered to all residential customers in the Bell South, Sprint and Verizon exchanges of South Carolina as defined by the Incumbents tariff on file with the Commission and includes: a) a residence dial tone line on a flat or measured rate basis; and (b) unlimited access that does not exceed 2,000 minutes to intra and interstate Long Distance calling within the Continental United States, per billing cycle. Customers must access Budget Phone's Long Distance platform by first dialing a toll free number and then must dial the ten-digit (10) termination number in order to complete the call. This plan does not provide for call detail information on the Customers monthly bill.

## 3.1.5 Budget Phone Deluxe Voice Plan

The Budget Phone Deluxe Voice Plan is a bundled pre-paid plan offered to all residential customers in the Bell South and Verizon exchanges of South Carolina as defined by the Incumbents tariff on file with the Commission and includes: a) a residence dial tone line on a flat or measured rate basis (b) unlimited access that does not exceed 2,000 minutes to intra and interstate Long Distance calling within the Continental United States, per billing cycle; and (c) the following three (3) Custom Calling Features: Caller ID, Call Waiting, and Three-way Calling¹. Customers must access Budget Phone's Long Distance platform by first dialing a toll free number and then must dial the tendigit (10) termination number in order to complete the call. This plan does not provide for call detail information on the Customers monthly bill.

#### 3.1.6 Deluxe 2000 Package

For a monthly recurring charge, Customer may add to the Basic or Double Feature Plans, two thousand (2,000) minutes, per billing cycle, of intrastate or interstate Long Distance calling within the Continental United States.

Effective: September 1, 2006

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Custom Calling Features are offered where facilities and equipment allow. All features may not be available in all central office switches.

## 3.1.7 Budget Phone Double Feature Plan

Budget Phone Double Feature Plan service is bundled pre-paid plan available to all residential customers residing in the Bell South exchanges of South Carolina as defined by the Incumbents tariff on file with the Commission. The Budget Phone Double Feature Plan is a bundled pre-paid residential service Plan offered on a flat or measured rate basis and includes sixty (60) minutes of intra and interlata Long Distance¹ calling within the Continental United States per billing cycle. The Double Feature Plan, along with its individual components, is available on a where offered basis. Budget Phone reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to alter, change, or substitute individual features. Customers must access Budget Phone's Long Distance platform by first dialing a toll free number and then must dial the ten-digit (10) termination number in order to complete the call. The Plan includes an additional 250 minutes of continental intrastate long distance usage for the first two (2) consecutive months of service (certain restrictions, as outlined below, do apply).2 The customer has the option to continue to receive an additional 250 minutes of interexchange intrastate long distance usage for an additional charge of \$5.00 per billing cycle. This plan does not provide for call detail information on the Customers monthly bill. 1-2 Long Distance calculated at a rate of \$0.019 pre minute of usage

with a \$.25 surcharge for each completed call.

The Double Feature Plan includes the following (available on a where offered basis):

- Local dial-tone line (1)
- Sixty (60) minutes of intra/interlata Long Distance calling within (2)the Continental United States per billing cycle
- Call Waiting Deluxe (3)
- Caller ID Deluxe (4)
- An additional 250 minutes of long distance for calls terminating (5)within the continental United States (included at no addition charge for the first two (2) consecutive months of service)

Effective: September 1, 2006

# 3.1.8 Customer Eligibility Criteria

New and existing customers are eligible for these plans if they meet the following requirements:

- A. Where applicable, customers must subscribe to Budget Phone Local and Long Distance service for both intra and interstate long distance service
- B. Plans are for voice service only and cannot be used for any use deemed inconsistent with residential use by Budget Phone.
- C. Plans are not available to customers with an account that bills to another number or is the recipient of charges billed from another number.

- D. Plans are not eligible for customer lines associated with educational institutions (colleges, universities, etc) or businesses.
- E. Unlimited access to long distance is for residential voice telephone service only and usage does not include multi-party conference calls, calls to 900 numbers, directory assistance, calling card, operator services, international calling, toll free numbers, chat rooms, telemarketing, commercial, facsimile (commercial), internet, automated dialing, special interest lines, and other non-residential use.
- F. Unlimited access to long distance is not available for resale.
- G. If Budget Phone determines that usage is not consistent with typical residential customer usage, the customer, at the sole discretion of the company, may be subject to additional charges, loss of unlimited access to long distance service, or to an alternate plan.
- H. For the purpose of the Deluxe Voice and Deluxe Unlimited Voice plans, typical residential usage is presumed to be total usage that does not exceed 2,000 minutes of intra and interstate usage per billing cycle, per account. Budget Phone's long distance platform will automatically deny calls on accounts that have used the allowed 2,000 minutes. Customers who wish to continue unlimited access to long distance on Budget Phone's platform can purchase additional blocks of time, in the form of Budget Phone pre-paid calling cards, from an authorized Budget Phone agent.
- I. Budget Phone reserves the right to verify that the customer meets the eligibility requirements. Customers who do not or no longer meet the eligibility requirements will not be eligible for plans.
- J. Budget Phone reserves the right to exclude certain terminating telephone numbers from this plan.

#### 3.1.9 Lifeline

## 1. Applicability:

a. Lifeline discounts are applicable to local exchange services provided to eligible residential Applicants.

## 2. Territory:

a. Within the base rate areas of all BellSouth, Sprint, and Verizon exchanges as shown and defined in the Incumbent LEC's current and effective Tariffs on file with the Commission.

#### 3. Discounts:

a. Lifeline is provided as a reduction of the subscriber's access line rate for local service in amounts equal to the sum of the state and/or federal approved and supported credits.

#### 4. Terms and Conditions:

- a. Lifeline is provided only to the customer's principle residence
- b. One low-income credit is available per household and applicable to the primary residential connection only. The named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the low-income assistance programs identified in 5 following.
- c. Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low-income assistance programs should be provided to the Company at the time of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until the Company has received proof of eligibility.
- d. When, for any reason, a customer is determined to be ineligible the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation, the Lifeline account will be disconnected.
- e. Certification of eligibility in any of the qualifying lowincome assistance programs will be required for any account that has been disconnected prior to the reestablishment of the service.

Effective: September 1, 2006

5. Eligible low-income assistance programs:

a. The eligible low-income assistance programs are the same as those defined in the Incumbent LEC's current and effective Tariffs on file with the Commission.

#### 3.1.10 Link-Up

- 1. Link-Up is a connection assistance program, which provides for the reduction of applicable charges associated with connection of telephone service.
- 2. The applicant must meet the requirements for qualification for Lifeline Telephone Service.

## 3.2 Customer Complains and/or Billing Disputes

Customer inquiries or complaints regarding service or accounting may be made in writing or by telephone to the Company at:

1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200 Bossier City, Louisiana 71111

(888) 424-5588

Any objection to billed charges should be reported promptly to Budget. Adjustments to Customers' bills shall be made to the extent that records are available and/or circumstances exist which reasonably indicate that such charges are not in accordance with approved rates or that an adjustment may otherwise be appropriate. If over-billing of a subscriber occurs, due to either Company or subscriber error, no liability exists which will require the Company to pay any interest, dividend or other compensation on the amount over-billed. In the event that the Company willfully overcharged any Customer, the Company shall refund the difference plus interest as prescribed by the Commission.

All Customer complaints are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission which may be contacted at the following address and telephone number:

State of South Carolina Public Service Commission P.O. drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211 800-922-1531

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

#### 3.3 Level of Service

A customer can expect end-to-end network availability of not less than 99% at all times for all services.

#### 3.4 Service Offerings

## 3.4.1 1+ Dialing

Budget Phone offers local residential service only and restricts all 1+ dialing. Additionally, Budget employs the use of customized code restrictions which permit local calls, non-chargeable calls such as repair service, emergency numbers (911) and 800 calling. Types of calls that are restricted are 0-,0+,DDD 1+, 1+900. 1+555-1212 and 1+NPA-555-1212,411,976,IDDD01 and IDDD011+.The Company shall not be liable to any person for damages of any nature or kind arising out of, resulting from, or in connection with the provision of Customized Code Restrictions.

## 3.4.2 Emergency Call Handling Procedures

Emergency 911 calls are not routed to Company but are completed through the local network at no charge.

## 3.4.3 Promotional Offerings

The Company may, from time to time, make promotional offerings to enhance the marketing of its services. These offerings may be limited to certain dates, times and locations. The Company will notify the Commission of such offerings as required by Commission rules and regulations. All promotional offerings will receive Commission approval prior to commencement of such offerings.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

## 3.4.4 Prompt Pay Discount

Residential customers who pay their account balance in full on or before the account due date will receive a Prompt Pay Discount in the amount of \$10.00. In anticipation of timely payment, the Prompt Pay Discount is applied to the customers account at the time of billing.

The Prompt Pay Discount will be removed from an account where payment in full has not been received by the due date.

# 3.4.5 Non-Optional Extended Area Service

Non-Optional Extended Area Service provides usage sensitive billing for calls to locations outside a customer's normal flat rate local calling area. The exchanges where Non-Optional Extended Area Service is required are:

Andrews, Conway, Elloree, Georgetown, Myrtle Beach, N. Myrtle Beach, Pawley's Island, Santee, and Woodruff.

Usage will be billed at \$.05 per minute and will apply in addition to the charge for local exchange service. Customers may elect optional detailed billing for measured rate calls originating from these exchanges. The charge for detailed billing is \$2.00 per month.

#### 3.4.6End User Access Service

The Company will provide End User Access Service (End User Access) to end users who obtain local exchange service from the Company under its local tariff. End users who obtain local exchange service from the Company under its local tariff are subject to the Intrastate Access Fee (IAF) as specified in this Section.

#### 3.4.1 General Description

End User Access Service as described in this Section relates to the use by an end user of an end user common line, used to originate or terminate intrastate calls.

#### 3.4.2 Limitations

- (A) A telephone number is not provided with End User Access.
- (B) Detail billing is not provided with End User Access.
- (C) Directory listings are not included with End User Access.
- (D) Intercept arrangements are not included with End User Access.

## 3.4.3 Undertaking of the Company

The Company will provide use of End User Access at rates and charges as set forth in 3.4.7 following, as follows:

- (A) Use of a common line by an end user with local exchange service in connection with intrastate Access Services provided under this tariff. Such use will be provided when the end user obtains local exchange service.
- (B) The Company will be responsible for contracts and arrangements with customers for the billing of End User Access rates.
- (C) Use of a common line by an End user for access to intrastate service arrangements (e.g. Toll Free Service, NPA+555+1212 service, and other similar service arrangements).
- (D) Use of a common line requires the facilities at the End User premises to have the necessary on-hook and off-hook supervision.

## 3.4.4 Obligations of the End User

When the end user is provided with a local exchange service that is not identified as Business or Residence service, it shall provide the Company any requested information necessary for the Company to determine the appropriate charges.

## 3.4.5 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

#### (A) Minimum Period

The minimum period for which End User Access is provided to and end user and for which charges are applicable is thirty (30) days.

## (B) Payment of Rates and Charges

The regulations that apply to the rates and charges for End User Access are the same as those that apply to local exchange service.

## (C) <u>Cancellation of Application</u>

End User Access is considered cancelled when the order for the associated local telephone exchange service is cancelled. No cancellation charges apply.

## (D) Changes to Orders

When changes are made to orders for the local exchange service associated with End User Access, any necessary changes will be made for End User Access. No charges will apply.

## (E) Allowance for Interruptions

When there is an interruption to a common line, requested End User Access credit allowances for interruptions will be provided. No charges will apply.

## 3.4.6 Rate Regulations

IAF per month charges will be billed to the end user of the associated local exchange service. The rate applications are described in (A) through (G) following.

- (A) The IAF residence subscriber regulations are designated as either primary or non-primary. In most cases only one line at a service location can be classified as primary, all other are considered to be non-primary.
- (B) When the Company provides an end user more than one local business exchange service the IAF for a multi-line business subscriber applies to each such local business exchange service.
- (C) When the Company provides an end user only a single individual local business exchange service within the state, the Individual Line Business Subscriber IAF applies to the individual line business.
- (D) When the Company provides an end user a local residence exchange service, the IAF applies to each such local residence exchange service on a Primary and Non-Primary basis.
- (E) When an end user is provided a local exchange service that is not identified as Business or Residence (e.g. local service), the Company will designate the service as either Business or Residence Service. The IAF for Business or Residence will apply.
- (F) The IAF shall be credited in full for residential local exchange service if the end user is eligible for the Company's Telephone Assistance Program. To be eligible, an end user must participate in one of the low-income assistance programs defined in the Incumbent LEC's current and effective Tariff on file with the Commission.

(G) In response to competition in an exchange, the Company may reduce or waive the IAF in a manner that is not unreasonably discriminatory.

# 3.4.7 Intrastate Access Fee (IAF) Rates and Charges

|   | Monthly Rate  |
|---|---------------|
| (1) Residential Subscriber,<br>Per line or trunk            |               |
| - Primary   | \$1.50        |
| - Non-Primary   | \$1.50        |
| (2) Individual Line Business Subscribe<br>Per line or trunk | er,<br>\$4.00 |
| (3) Multi-Line Business Subscriber,<br>Per line or trunk    | \$4.00        |

#### 3.4.7 OSS RECOVERY

In addition to other charges that may be applicable under this tariff, a monthly recurring charge of \$1.50 will be imposed by Company to partially defray the cost of providing service to the customer through the Incumbent LEC's Operational Support System(s).

# 3.4.8 Federal and State Access and Assessment Line Charges

| FCC Subscriber Line Charge       | \$6.50 |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| FCC PICC Charge                  | \$0.53 |
| Emergency 911                    | \$1.00 |
| Telecommunications Relay Service | \$0.15 |

#### SECTION 4 - CURRENT RATES

# 4.1 <u>Universal Service Fund Assessment & Presubscribed Interexchange</u> <u>Carrier Charge</u>

The Customer will be assessed a monthly Federal Universal Service Fund contribution charge on all telecommunications services, which in no event shall be less than the prevailing contribution percentage rate charged the Company on intrastate traffic by the Universal Service Administrative Company (or any successor). A Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge ("PICC") applies on a monthly basis to all Customer monthly bills at the prevailing rate.

# COMPETITIVE ACCESS PROVIDER SERVICES TARIFF SOUTH CAROLINA

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

OF

BUDGET PREPAY, INC. D/B/A BUDGET PHONE

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations and rates applicable to the furnishing of competitive access service and facilities for telecommunications services provided by Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone ("Budget Phone") within the State of South Carolina. This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission. Copies may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company's principal place of business at 1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200, Bossier City, LA 71111.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

Issued By:

#### **CHECK SHEET**

Sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

| Sheet | Revision | Sheet | Revision | Sheet | Revision |
|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| 1     | Original | 20    | Original | 40    | Original |
| 2     | Original | 21    | Original | 41    | Original |
| 3     | Original | 22    | Original | 42    | Original |
| 4     | Original | 23    | Original | 43    | Original |
| 5     | Original | 24    | Original | 44    | Original |
| 6     | Original | 25    | Original | 45    | Original |
| 7     | Original | 26    | Original | 46    | Original |
| 8     | Original | 27    | Original | 47    | Original |
| 9     | Original | 28    | Original | 48    | Original |
| 10    | Original | 29    | Original | 49    | Original |
| 11    | Original | 30    | Original | 50    | Original |
| 12    | Original | 31    | Original | 51    | Original |
| 13    | Original | 32    | Original | 52    | Original |
| 14    | Original | 33    | Original | 53    | Original |
| 15    | Original | 34    | Original | 54    | Original |
| 16    | Original | 35    | Original | 55    | Original |
| 17    | Original | 36    | Original | 56    | Original |
| 18    | Original | 37    | Original | 57    | Original |
| 19    | Original | 38    | Original |       |          |
| • •   |          | 39    | Original |       |          |

<sup>\*-</sup> indicates pages included in this filing

Issued: November 20, 2006

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Issued By:

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#### **SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- **D** Delete or discontinue.
- I Change resulting in an increase to a customer's bill.
- M Moved from another tariff location.
- N New.
- R Change resulting in a reduction to a customer's bill.
- T Change in text or regulation but no change in rate or charge.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

#### TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Sheet Numbering Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 14 and 15 would be 14.1.
- B. Sheet Revision Numbers Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th revised Sheet 14 cancels the 3rd revised Sheet 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the Commission follows in its tariff approval process, the most current sheet number on file with the Commission is not always the sheet in effect. Consult the Check Sheet for the sheet currently in effect.
- **C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence -** There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to the next higher level:
  - 2. 2.1 2.1.1 2.1.1.A. 2.1.1.A.1.(a) 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I. 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i). 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).

Issued By:

D. Check Sheets - When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross-reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remain the same, just revised revision levels on some sheets.) The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on file with the Commission.

#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS**

Certain terms used generally throughout this tariff for the Access Services of this Company are defined below.

Access Code: A uniform seven digit code assigned by the Company to an individual Customer. The seven digit code has the form 950-XXXX or 101XXXX.

<u>Access Service</u>: Switched Access to the network of an Interexchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications.

<u>Access Service Request (ASR)</u>: The industry service order format used by Access Service Customers and access providers as agreed to by the Ordering and Billing Forum.

<u>Access Tandem:</u> An Exchange Carrier's switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between local switching centers and Customers' premises.

<u>Authorized User</u>: A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to use Access Services or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to use Access Services.

Carrier or Common Carrier: See Interexchange Carrier or Exchange Carrier.

 $\underline{\text{Co-Carrier}}$ : Any other Telecommunications provider authorized by the Commission to provide local exchange service in the state.

Commission: South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Common Channel Signaling (CCS): A high-speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. It is used to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between signaling points in the CCS network.

### SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)

Company: Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone, or "Budget Phone," issuer of this tariff.

<u>Constructive Order</u>: Delivery of calls to or acceptance of calls from the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services constitutes a Constructive Order by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. Similarly the selection by a Company's End User of the Customer as the presubscribed IXC constitutes a Constructive Order of switched access by the Customer.

<u>Customer</u>: The person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders Service and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's tariff regulations. The Customer could be an interexchange carrier, a wireless provider, or any other carrier authorized to operate in the state.

8XX Data Base Access Service: The term "8XX Data Base Access Service" denotes a toll-free originating Trunkside Access Service when the 8XX Service Access Code (i.e., 800, 822, 833, 844, 855, 866, 877, or 888 as available) is used.

<u>End User</u>: Any individual, association, corporation, governmental agency or any other entity other than an Interexchange Carrier which subscribes to intrastate service provided by an Exchange Carrier.

Entrance Facility: A trunk facility connecting the Customer's point of presence with the local switching center.

<u>Exchange Carrier</u>: Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in the provision of local exchange telephone service.

<u>Firm Order Confirmation (FOC)</u>: Acknowledgment by the Company of receipt of an Access Service Request from the Customer and commitment by the Company of a Service Date.

<u>Individual Case Basis</u>: A service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer's situation.

<u>Inter-MTA Traffic</u> - Wireless traffic originating on the network of a CMRS provider within one MTA and terminating to the Company's end-user subscribers in another MTA.

<u>Intra-MTA Traffic</u> - Wireless traffic originating on the network of a CMRS provider within a MTA and terminating to the Company's end-user subscribers in the same MTA.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)

<u>Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Interexchange Common Carrier</u>: Any individual, partnership, association, joint stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in state or foreign communication for hire by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

<u>LATA</u>: A local access and transport area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192 for the provision and administration of communications services.

<u>Line Information Data Base (LIDB)</u>: The data base which contains base information such as telephone numbers, calling card numbers and associated billed number restriction data used in connection with the validation and billing of calls.

<u>Local Access</u>: The connection between a Customer's premises and a point of presence of the Exchange Carrier.

<u>Local Switching Center</u>: The switching center where telephone exchange service Customer station Channels are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice Trunks.

<u>Local Traffic</u>: Traffic is "Local Traffic" under this tariff is: (i) the call originates and terminates in the same exchange area; or (ii) the call originates and terminates within different Company Exchanges that share a common mandatory local calling area, e.g., a mandatory Extended Local Calling Service (ELCS) or Extended Area Service areas (EAS) or other like types of mandatory local calling scopes.

Meet Point: A point of interconnection that is not an end office or tandem.

<u>Meet Point Billing</u>: The arrangement through which multiple Exchange Carriers involved in providing Access Services, divide the ordering, rating, and billing of such services on a proportional basis, so that each Exchange Carrier involved in providing a portion of the Access Service agrees to bill under its respective tariff.

Mobile Telephone Switching Office: Location where the wireless Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

Issued By:

Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance

### SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)

<u>Mutual Traffic Exchange</u>: A compensation arrangement between certified local exchange service providers where local exchange service providers pay each other "in kind" for terminating local exchange traffic on the other's network.

Network Services: The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

<u>Non-Recurring Charges</u>: The one-time initial charges for services or facilities, including but not limited to charges for construction, installation, or special fees, for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

Off-Hook: The active condition of Switched Access or a telephone exchange service line.

Optional Expanded Area Service Traffic (OEAS): Optional service found in large urban areas financed by separate charge on end users that elect service as defined by a tariffed approved by the Commission.

On-Hook: The idle condition of switched access or a telephone exchange service line.

Out of Band Signaling: An exchange access signaling feature which allows customers to exchange call control and signaling information over a communications path which is separate from the message path.

<u>Point of Presence</u>: Location where the Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

<u>Premises</u>: The space occupied by a Customer or Authorized User in a building or buildings or on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

<u>Presubscription</u>: An arrangement whereby an End User may select and designate to the Company an Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Carriers it wishes to access, without an Access Code, for completing both intraLATA toll calls and/or interLATA calls. The selected IXC(s) are referred to as the End User's Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC).

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (Cont'd.)**

<u>Recurring Charges:</u> The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

<u>Service Order</u>: The written request for Network Services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format devised by the Company; or, in the alternative, the submission of an Access Service Request by the Customer in the manner specified in this tariff.

Service(s): The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

<u>Signaling Point of Interface</u>: The Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer.

Signaling System 7 (SS7): The common Channel Out of Band Signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

<u>Switched Access Service</u>: Access to the switched network of an Exchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications. Switched Access is available to carriers, as defined in this tariff.

<u>Trunk</u>: A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

<u>Wireless Provider</u>: Any carrier authorized to operate as a provider of cellular, personal communications, paging or any other form of wireless transmission.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

#### **SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## 2.1 Undertaking of the Company

#### 2.1.1 Scope

The Company's services offered pursuant to this Tariff are furnished for Switched Access Service. The Company may offer these services over its own or resold facilities.

The Company installs, operates, and maintains the communications services provided herein in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth under this Tariff. The Company may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities as required in the Commission's rules and orders, when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to the Company network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service agreement.

The Company's services and facilities are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise indicated, and are available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

# 2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- A. The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company when necessary because of lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- B. The furnishing of service under this tariff is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the company may obtain from other Carriers from time to time, to furnish service as required at the sole discretion of the Company.
- C. The provisioning and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

#### 2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

- A. Except as otherwise provided herein, service is provided and billed on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, and shall continue to be provided until canceled by the Customer, in writing, on not less than 30 days notice. Unless otherwise specified herein, for the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. Customers seeking to cancel service have an affirmative obligation to block traffic originating from or terminating to the Company's network. By originating traffic from or originating traffic to the Company's network, the Customer will have constructively ordered the Company's switched access service.
- C. The Customer agrees to operate Company-provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void Company liability for interruption of service and may make the Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to section 2.1.3.D below.
- D. The Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.

### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

#### 2.1.4 Liability of the Company

Issued By:

A. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of the furnishing of its Services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, other defects, or representations by the Company, or use of these services or damages arising out of the failure to furnish the service whether caused by act or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances for interruption as set forth in 2.6 below.

The extension of such allowances for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer and the sole liability of the Company. The Company will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages to Customer as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or the acts or omissions or negligence of the Company's employees or agents.

B. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a Customer or by any others, for damages associated with the ordering (including the reservation of any specific number for use with a service), installation (including delays thereof), provision, termination, maintenance, repair interruption or restoration of any service or facilities offered under this tariff, and subject to the provisions of the Company's liability, if any, shall be limited as provided herein.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

- 2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)
  - C. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction action, or request of The United States government or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any military authority; preemption of existing service in compliance with national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockouts work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.
  - D. The Company shall not be liable for (a) any act or omission of any entity furnishing the Company or the Company's Customers facilities or equipment used for the interconnection with Access Services; or (b) for the acts or omissions of other Common Carriers.

### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

- 2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)
  - E. The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the Customer or due to the failure or malfunction of Customer-provided equipment or facilities.
  - F. The Customer shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person(s), and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, condition, location, or use of any installation or equipment provided by the Company. The Company reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of the provisions of this Section 2.1.4.F as a condition precedent to such installations.
  - G. The Company shall not be liable for any defacement of or damage to Customers Premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's agents or employees. No agents or employees of other participating Carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees' of the Company.

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

- 2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)
  - H. Notwithstanding the Customer's obligations as set forth in Section 2.3 below, the Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer, or by others authorized by it to use the service, against any claim, loss or damage arising from Customer's use of services furnished under this tariff, including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the material, data, information, or other content transmitted via the Company's service; and patent infringement claims arising from combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with apparatus and systems of the Customer or others; all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the Customer or others, in connection with any service provided by the Company pursuant to this tariff.
  - I. The Company shall be indemnified and held harmless by the End User against any claim, loss or damage arising from the End User's use of services offered under this tariff including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the End User's own communications; patent infringement claims arising from the End User's combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with facilities or equipment furnished by the End User of another Interexchange Carrier; or all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the End User in connection with any service provided pursuant to this tariff.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

- 2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)
  - J. The entire liability of the Company for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid to the Company by the Customer for the specific services giving rise to the claim, and no action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than one year after the service is rendered.
  - K. The Company makes no warranties or representation, express or implied, including warranties or merchant's ability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.
  - L. The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service, or for damages associated with service, Channels, or equipment which result from the operation of Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or service which are interconnected with Company services.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

- 2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont'd.)
  - M. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations. The Customer and End User shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to, or death of, any person or persons, or for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, locations or use of service furnished by the Company at such locations.
  - The Company shall not be liable for the Customer's failure to fulfill its obligations to N. take all necessary steps including, without limitation, obtaining, installing and maintaining all necessary equipment, materials and supplies, for interconnecting the terminal equipment or communications system of the Customer, or any third party acting as its agent, to the Company's Network. The Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the Customer shall ensure that its equipment and/or system or that of its agent is properly interfaced with the Company's service, that the signals emitted into the Company's Network are of the proper mode, band-width, power, data speed, and signal level for the intended use of the Customer and in compliance with the criteria set forth in Section 2.1.6 following, and that the signals do not damage Company equipment, injure its personnel or degrade service to other Customers. If the Customer or its agent fails to maintain and operate its equipment and/or system or that of its agent properly, with resulting imminent harm to Company equipment, personnel, or the quality of service to other Customers, the Company, may, upon written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense. If this fails to produce satisfactory quality and safety, the Company may, upon written notice, terminate the Customer's service without liability.

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

### 2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities within its control that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable, notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

### 2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available services to a Customer on or before a particular date, subject to the provisions of and compliance by the Customer with, the regulations contained in this tariff. The Company does not guarantee availability by any such date and shall not be liable for any delays in commencing service to any Customer.
- B. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not, nor may the Customer permit others to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- C. The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the service provided the Customer.
- D. Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the Company provided it.
- E. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges imposed on the Company by another entity, for visits to the Customer Premises when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

- 2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities (cont'd.)
  - F. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Notwithstanding the above, the Company shall not be responsible for:
    - 1. the transmission of signals by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission;
    - 2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
    - 3. network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer provided network control signaling equipment.
  - G. The Company intends to work cooperatively with the Customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.
  - H. The Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate or change telephone numbers, any other call number designations associated with Access Services, or the Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

#### 2.1.7 Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in unusual locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

### 2.1.8 Special Construction

Subject to the arrangement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this tariff, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken and characterized by one or more of the following:

- A. where facilities are not presently available and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- B. of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services:
- C. where facilities are to be installed over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- D. where facilities are requested in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- E. where installation is on an expedited basis;

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

Issued By: Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

# 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

- 2.1.8 Special Construction (cont'd.)
  - F. on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
  - G. installation involving abnormal costs; or
  - H. in advance of its normal construction schedules.

Special construction charges for Switched Access Service will be determined on an individual use basis.

### 2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this tariff remains in the Company, its agents, contractors or suppliers.

#### 2.2 Prohibited Uses

- 2.2.1 The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purposes or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits.
- 2.2.2 The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and applicable state regulations, policies, orders, and decisions; and if the Reseller intends to provide intrastate services, is certified with the appropriate state entity.
- 2.2.3 The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer

Issued By:

- 2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for:
  - A. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff;
  - B. reimbursing the Company for damage to, or loss of, the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company. The Company will, upon reimbursement for damages to its facilities or equipment, cooperate with the Customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the Customer shall be subjugated in the Company's right of recovery of damages to the extent of such payment;
  - C. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed personnel, equipment, space, and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the Customer Premises, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such Premises;
  - D. obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Access Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in 2.3.1.C above. Any costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company-provided facilities, shall be owned entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to, the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this subsection prior to accepting an order for service;

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

- 2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for (cont'd.):
  - E. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the Premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing, and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g. friable asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
  - F. complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses, and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer Premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible obtaining under Section 2.3.1.D above; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the Customer Premises at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company; and
  - G. not creating or allowing to be placed or maintained any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities.

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

#### 2.3.2 Claims

Issued By:

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees for:

- A. any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to employees or invitees of either the Company or the Customer, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invitees;
- B. any claim, loss, damage, expense or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, without limitation, use of the Company's services and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between the Customer and the Company.

### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

#### 2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting

The jurisdictional reporting requirements will be as specified below. When a Customer orders Access Service, its projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) must be provided in whole numbers to the Company. These whole number percentages will be used by the Company to apportion the use and/or charges between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received as set forth herein. Reported or default PIU factors are used only where the call detail is insufficient to determine the appropriate jurisdiction of the traffic.

A. Originating Access: Originating access minutes is only traffic originating from the Company Local Switching Center(s). The Customer should provide the Company with a projected PIU factor on a quarterly basis.

If no PIU for originating minutes is submitted as specified herein, then the projected PIU will be set on a default basis of 50 percent interstate traffic and 50 percent intrastate traffic.

B. Terminating Access: For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the Customer should provide the Company with a projected PIU factor by supplying the Company with an interstate percentage of terminating access minutes on a quarterly basis, as described in Sections 2.3.3.D below.

If no projected PIU factor is submitted by the Customer, then the projected PIU will be set on a default basis of 50 percent interstate traffic and 50 percent intrastate traffic.

C. Except where the Company measured access minutes are used as set forth above, the Customer reported Projected PIU factor as set forth above will be used until the Customer reports a different projected PIU factor, as set forth below.

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

#### 2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (cont'd.)

- D. Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer should update its interstate and intrastate jurisdictional report. The Customer should forward to the Company, to be received no later than 15 days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate and intrastate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June, and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate use, based solely on the traffic originating from or terminating to the Company Local Switching Center. The revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months' billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. If the Customer does not supply the reports for those services where reports are needed, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as that provided previously. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the Customer, the Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in 2.3.3A and 2.3.3B above.
- E. Jurisdictional Reports Verification: For Switched Access Service, if a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected PIU factor, the Customer will provide the data issued to determine the projected PIU factor. The Customer will supply the data within 30 days of the Company request.

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

# 2.3 Obligations of the Customer, (Cont'd.)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (cont'd.)

(cont'd.)

The Customer shall keep records of call detail from which the percentage of interstate and intrastate use can be ascertained and, upon request of the Company, shall make the records available for inspection as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages.

The Company reserves the right to conduct an audit at any time during the year. The Customer, as its own expense, has the right to retain an independent auditing firm.

# 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 General

A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company.

#### 2.4.2 Station Equipment

A. The Customer is responsible for providing and maintaining any terminal equipment on the Customer Premises. The electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by, and maintained at the expense of, the Customer. All such terminal equipment must be registered with the FCC under 47 C.F.R., Part 68 and all wiring must be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations. The Company will, where practicable, notify the Customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, nothing contained herein shall be deemed to impair the Company's right to discontinue forthwith the use of a service temporarily if such action is reasonable under the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the Customer will be promptly notified and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in Section 2.6 following is not applicable.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

- 2.4.2 Station Equipment, (cont'd.)
  - B. The Customer is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities.

The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense.

#### 2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities

Issued By:

- A. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Access Services and the Channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- B. Access Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the tariffs of the other communications carriers which are applicable to such connections.

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

#### 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

#### 2.4.4 Inspections

- A. Upon reasonable notification of the Customer, and at reasonable times, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2.B for the installation, operation, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions occurring during such inspections.
- B. If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel from harm. The Company will, upon request 24 hours in advance, provide the Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

#### 2.5 Payment Arrangements

Issued By:

#### 2.5.1 Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for services and facilities furnished by the Company to the Customer or its Joint or Authorized Users.

#### A. Taxes

The Customer is responsible for the payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) excluding taxes on the Company's net income imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Access Services. All such taxes shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.5 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

#### 2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

Unless otherwise specified herein, bills are due and payable upon receipt. The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by, and credits due to, the Customer under this Tariff attributable to services established, provided, or discontinued during the preceding billing period. Any known unbilled charges for prior periods and any known adjustments also will be applied to the current bill.

Non-Recurring Charges are due and payable within 30 days after the invoice date. The Company shall present invoices for all Charges monthly to the Customer. Amounts not paid within 30 days after the date of invoice will be considered past due. The Company will assess a late payment charge equal to 1.5% per month for any past due balance that exceeds 30 days. If the Company becomes concerned at any time about the ability of a Customer to pay its bills, the Company may require that the Customer pay its bills within a specified number of days and make such payments in cash or the equivalent of cash.

If a service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.3 following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.5 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

Issued By:

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges, (cont'd.)

The Customer shall notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within 90 days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedures.

## 2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service

- A. Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, by giving requisite prior written notice to the Customer discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- B. Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, by giving 30 days' prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- C. Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- D. Upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue service without incurring any Liability.

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.5 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

- 2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service, (cont'd.)
  - E. Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under Section 2.5.3.A or 2.5.3.B above, the Company, in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such services would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable.
  - F. The Company may discontinue the furnishings of any and/or all service(s) to Customer, without incurring any liability:
    - 1. Immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services. The Company may discontinue service pursuant to this sub-section 2.5.3.F.1.(a-e), if
      - (a) The Customer refuses to furnish information to the Company regarding the Customer's credit-worthiness, its past or current use of Common Carrier communications services or its planned use of service(s); or
      - (b) The Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, credit-worthiness, past or current use of Common Carrier communications services, or its planned use of the Company's service(s); or

## SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.5 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

- 2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service, (cont'd.)
  - F. (cont'd)
    - 1. (cont'd)
      - (c) The Customer states that it will not comply with a request of the Company for security for the payment for service(s) in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A above; or
      - (d) The Customer has been given written notice by the Company of any past due amount (which remains unpaid in whole or in part) for any of the Company's other Common Carrier communications services to which the Customer either subscribes or had subscribed or used; or
      - (e) The Customer uses, or attempts or use, service with the intent to void the payment, either in whole or in part, of the tariff charges for the service by:
        - I. Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections to the Company's service not authorized by this tariff, or
        - II. Using tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, electronic devices; or
        - III. By delivering calls to or accepting calls from the Company's End User locations over Company switched local exchange services; or
        - IV. Continuing to have Company End Users presubscribed to the Customer; or
        - V. Any other Fraudulent means or devices; or
    - 2. Upon ten (10) days written notice to the Customer of any sum thirty (30) days past due;

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

### 2.5 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

- 2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service, (cont'd.)
  - F. (cont'd)
    - 3. Upon ten (10) days' written notice to the Customer, after failure of the Customer to comply with a request made by the Company for security for the payment of service in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A, above; or
    - 4. Seven (7) days after sending the Customer written notice of noncompliance with any provision of this tariff if the noncompliance is not corrected within that seven (7) day period. The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligation to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.
  - G. In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses, including attorney's fees, in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed the Company, the Customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred.

# 2.5.4 Cancellation of Application for Service

Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun.

The special charges described will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

## 2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

Interruptions in service which are not due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by, the Customer or the operation or malfunction of the facilities, power, or equipment provided by the Customer, will be credited to the Customer as set forth in 2.6.1 for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

The credit allowance will be calculated by the Company after the Customer notifies the Company of service interruption. The amount of the allowance will depend on the length of the outage and the service impacted. Service Outage conditions are defined as complete loss of call origination and/or receipt capability. Credit Allowances, if any, will be deducted from the charges payable by the IXC and will be expressly indicated on the next invoice. A Service Outage begins when the IXC reports the outage to the Company.

A Service Outage ends when the affected circuit and/or associated Company equipment is fully operational in accordance with the technical specifications.

Credit allowances do not apply to outages (i) caused by the IXC; (ii) due to failure of equipment provided by the IXC; (iii) during any period in which the Company is not given access to the service premises; (iv) failures of LEC facilities or equipment which are carrying the failures resulting from the activities or negligence of LEC employees; (vi) inability to gain access to the IXC's equipment; and (vii) due to mutually agreed upon maintenance and repair.

Credit Allowances received by the Company from the LEC for Off-Net facility outages which affects the IXC's Switched Services will be passed through to the IXC in the form of a credit on the next invoice.

Issued: November 20, 2006 Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

# 2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, (Cont'd.)

### 2.6.1 Limitations on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A. interruptions due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by, the Customer, Authorized User, Joint-User, or other Common Carrier providing service connected to the service of Company;
- B. interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including, but not limited to, the Customer or other Common Carriers connected to the Company's facilities;
- C. interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment;
- D. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- E. interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- F. interruptions of service during any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- G. interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

Issued By:

Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance
1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200
Bossier City, Louisiana 71111

### SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

#### 2.7 Transfers and Assignments

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties (a) to any subsidiary, parent Company or affiliate of the Company (b) pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

#### 2.8 Notices and Communications

- 2.8.1 Delivery of calls to or acceptance of calls from the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services constitutes an order by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. Similarly the selection by a Company's End User of the Customer as the presubscribed IXC constitutes an order of switched access by the Customer. In these cases, an invoice will be the first communication from the Company to the Customer. In other instances a Service Order may be used.
- 2.8.2 The Customer shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- 2.8.3 The Company shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Company may designate a separate address, on each bill for service, to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.8.4 All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff shall be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following deposit of the notice, communication, or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- 2.8.5 The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (Cont'd.)

#### 2.9 Meet Point Billing

Meet Point Billing applies when more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service. All recurring and nonrecurring charges for services provided by each Exchange Telephone Company are billed under each company's applicable rates as set forth below.

The Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE

#### 3.1 General

This section sets forth the regulations and order related charges for Access Service Requests (ASR) for Switched Access Service, as defined in this tariff. These charges are in addition to other applicable charges set forth in other sections of this tariff.

# 3.1.1 Ordering Conditions

Customer may order switched access through a Constructive Order, as defined herein, or through an ASR.

The format and terms of the ASR will be as specified in the Industry Access Service Order Guidelines, unless otherwise specified herein.

#### 3.1.2 Minimum Period of Service

The minimum period for which Access Service is provided and for which charges are applicable is one month.

- A. The following changes will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and a request for installation of a new service. All associated Non-Recurring Charges will apply for the new service, and a new minimum period will be established:
  - 1. A change in the identity of the Customer of record; or
  - 2. A move by the Customer to a different building.
- B. When Access Service is disconnected prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the balance of the minimum period. The Minimum Period Charge for monthly billed services will be determined as follows:

For Switched Access Service, the charge for a month or fraction thereof is equivalent to 50,000 billed minutes of use for the applicable service.

All applicable Non-Recurring Charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE, (Cont'd.)

## 3.2 Miscellaneous Charges

Customer Requested Due Date Change 1,2 \$50, per order

Customer Requested Expedite <sup>2</sup> \$250, per location, per order

Cancellation (after 3 business days from order placement) <sup>2</sup> Full NRCs + \$250, per order

Design Change, DS0/DS1<sup>2</sup> \$150, per circuit

Design Change, DS3 and higher <sup>2</sup> \$300, per circuit

Administrative Processing <sup>2</sup> \$25, per order

Company Due Date Change Policy - No due date change accepted at or after four (4) days prior to the current due date. If a Customer request is received during that time period, the supplemental charge will apply and, in addition, the billing will start on the current due date without exception.

For services involving facilities leased from other telecommunications providers, Supplementary Charges will be priced on an Individual Case Basis, and will be based upon a pass-through of all charges assessed by other providers, and the Company's administrative costs.

Effective: December 4, 2006

# COMPETITIVE ACCESS PROVIDER SERVICES TARIFF

## SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

### 4.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to Customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a Customer's Premises and an End User's Premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching and transport facilities. Switched Access Service provides the ability to originate calls from an End User's Premises to a Customer's Premises, and to terminate calls from a Customer's Premises to an End User's Premises.

Switched Access Service is available when originating or terminating calls from or to an end user which subscribes to the Company's Local Exchange Services.

Rates and charges are set forth in Section 5. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in Section 5.

# 4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements

## 4.2.1 Feature Group Access

FG Access is provisioned at the DS-1 level and provides trunk-side access to Local Switching Center switches, for the Customer's use in originating and terminating communications. Basic FG Access service will be provided with Multi-Frequency In Band Signaling (SS7 is also available, where capabilities exist).

All traffic is routed to and from the Company's local switching center via the Customer's tandem provider or via end office trucking, where available. Delivery of calls to, or acceptance of calls from, the Company's End User locations over Company-switched local exchange services shall constitute an agreement by the Customer to purchase switched access services as described herein. The Company reserves the right to require the Customer to submit an ASR for switched access.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Issued By:

Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance

## SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (Cont'd.)

# 4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

### 4.2.2 Manner of Provision

Trunks used for Switched Access Service may be configured for one-way (either originating only or terminating only) or for two-way directionality.

## 4.2.3 Call Types

The following Switched Access Service call types are available:

- A. Originating FG Access
- B. Originating 800 FG Access
- C. Terminating FG Access

## 4.2.4 Originating FG Access

The access code for FG Access switching is a uniform access code of the form 1+ or 011+ or 101XXXX. For 101XXXX dialing a single access code will be the assigned number of all FG Access provided to the Customer by the Company. When the access code is used, FG Access switching also provides for dialing the digit 0 for access to the Customer's operator service, 911 for access to emergency service, and/or the end of dialing digit (#) for cut-through access to the Customer's premises. The Company will provide originating FG access consistent with dialing parity obligations.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

Issued By:

## SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (Cont'd.)

## 4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

## 4.2.5 Originating 800 FG Access

800 Data Base Access Service is a service offering utilizing originating Trunk side Switched Access Service. When an 8XX + NXX + XXXX call is originated by an End User, the Company will perform Customer identification based on screening of the full ten-digits of the 8XX number to determine the Customer location to which the call is to be routed.

## 4.2.6 Terminating FG Access

FG Access, when used in the terminating direction, may only be used to access end users who are subscribing to the Company's Local Exchange Services. Calls in the terminating direction will not be completed to 950-0XXX or 950-1XXX access codes, local operator assistance (0-and 0+), Directory Assistance, (411 or 555-1212) service codes 611 and 911 and 101XXXX access codes.

## 4.3 Reports and Testing

- 4.3.1 Design Layout Report: At the request of the Customer, the Company will provide to the Customer the makeup of the facilities and services provided from the Customer's Premises to the first point of switching. This information will be provided in the form of a Design Layout Report. The Design Layout Report will be provided to the Customer at no charge.
- 4.3.2 Acceptance Testing: At no additional charge, the Company will, at the Customer's request, cooperatively test, at the time of installation, the following parameters: loss, C-notched noise, C-message noise, 3-tone slope, d.c. continuity and operational signaling.

## **SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES**

### 5.1 General

This section contains the specific regulations governing the rates and charges that apply for Switched Access Services:

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service:

- Non-Recurring Charges: One-time charges that apply for a specific work activity.
- Recurring Charges: Fixed charges apply each month and depend on the number and type of facilities in place.
- Usage Charges: Charges that are applied on a per access minute basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

## SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

### 5.2 Rate Categories

- 5.2.1 There are several rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:
  - Blended Carrier Switched Access Originating
  - Blended Carrier Switched Access Terminating
  - Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Access Service

The Company provides originating and terminating switched access service through a single blended rate based on aggregate traffic volumes from the following cost categories:

### Common Line

The Common Line cost category establishes the charges related to the use of Company-provided end user common lines by customers and end users for intrastate access.

## **Switched Transport**

The Switched Transport cost category establishes the charges related to the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer designated premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications.

### **End Office Switching**

The End Office Switching cost category establishes the charges related to the use of end office switching equipment, the terminations in the end office of end user lines, the terminations of calls at Company Intercept Operators or recordings, the Signaling Transfer Point (STP) costs, and the SS7 signaling function between the end office and the STP.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

# SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

## 5.2 Rate Categories, (Cont'd.)

5.2.2 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query

The Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query Charge, will apply for each Toll-Free 8XX call query received at the Company's (or its provider's) Toll-Free 8XX data base.

5.2.3 Optional Features

Other optional features may be available on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

Issued By:

## SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

#### 5.3 **Billing of Access Minutes**

When recording originating calls over FG Access with multi-frequency address signaling, usage measurement begins when the first wink supervisory signal is forwarded from the Customer's facilities.

The measurement of originating call usage over FG Access ends when the originating FG Access entry switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating End User's Local Switching Center - (indicating that the originating End User has disconnected), or the Customer's facilities, whichever is recognized first by the entry switch.

For terminating calls over FG Access with multi-frequency address signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when a seizure signal is received from the Carrier's trunk group at the Point of Presence within the LATA. The measurement of terminating call usage over FG Access ends when a disconnect signal is received, indicating that either the originating or terminating user has disconnected.

When recording originating calls over FG Access with SS7 signaling, usage measurement begins with the transmission of the initial address message by the switch for direct trunk groups and with the receipt of an exit message by the switch for tandem trunk groups. The measurement of originating FG Access usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

For terminating calls over FG Access with SS7 signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating recording switch receives the initial address message from the terminating End User. On directly routed trunk groups or on tandem routed trunk groups, the Company switch receives the initial address message and sends the indication to the Customer in the form of an answer message.

The measurement of terminating FG Access call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006 Ronald Munn, Director Regulatory and Revenue Assurance Issued By: 1325 Barksdale Blvd., Suite 200

# SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

## 5.4 Rates and Charges

5.4.1 Blended Carrier Switched Access

Originating

\$0.0092330

Terminating

\$0.0092330

Issued: November 20, 2006

Effective: December 4, 2006

## SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (Cont'd.)

## 5.4 Rates and Charges, (Cont'd.)

5.4.2 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query

Per Query

Issued By:

\$0.0041

5.4.3 Switched Access Optional Features

All Optional Features are offered on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

### SECTION 6 - LOCAL TRAFFIC EXCHANGE AND TERMINATION

### 6.1 General

Issued By:

This section establishes the methodology for the exchange and termination of local traffic for carriers that do not have an interconnection agreement with the Company.

## 6.2 Ordering Conditions

The Customer may order switched access through a Constructive Order, as defined herein, or through an ASR. The format and terms of the ASR will be as specified in the Industry Access Service Order Guidelines, unless otherwise specified herein.

## 6.3 Local Traffic Compensation

Local traffic exchange will be conducted under a Bill and Keep arrangement. All local traffic will be exchanged under a Meet Point Billing Arrangement unless and until either the Commission or FCC requires an alternative approach for the exchange of usage information for such traffic for use by all industry participants, pursuant to which the Company and the Terminating Carriers shall recover the costs of transporting and terminating such traffic on their networks from other parties in accordance with the then applicable regulations, including to the extent practicable, any Internet Service Provider access charge exemption. This provision does not apply to access traffic, transit traffic, or wireless traffic.

### SECTION 7 - CONTRACTS AND INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS ARRANGEMENTS

### 7.1 Contracts

The Company may provide any of the services offered under this tariff, or combinations of services, to Customers on a contractual basis. The terms and conditions of each contract offering are subject to the agreement of both the Customer and Company. Such contract offerings will be made available to similarly situated Customers in substantially similar circumstances. Rates in other sections of this tariff do not apply to Customers who agree to contract arrangements, with respect to services within the scope of the contract.

Services provided under contract are not eligible for any promotional offerings which may be offered by the Company from time to time.

## 7.2 Individual Case Basis Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on an individual case basis (ICB) in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a service. ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis.

### **SECTION 8 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**

### 8.1 Wireless Termination Service

This tariff applies to intraMTA traffic originated by a Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) provider and terminated to end-user subscribers of the Company (i.e., wireless to wireline traffic) without the direct interconnection of the CMRS provider's and the Company's networks and where the CMRS provider is physically connected with and delivers traffic to a third party ILEC(s) which in turn delivers the traffic to the Company.

- 8.1.1 This service is provided to Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- 8.1.2 Wireless Termination Service is limited to wireless-to-wireline traffic that originates and terminates within the same Major Trading Area (MTA) (i.e., intraMTA traffic). The Major Trading Area as defined in 47 C.F.R. paragraph 24-102 of the FCC Rules and Regulations.
- 8.1.3 Wireless Termination Service is not available to wireless-to-wireline traffic that originates andterminates in two different MTAs (i.e., interMTA traffic). In those situations where a CMRS provider terminates interMTA traffic to the end-user subscribers of the Company then the rates, terms and conditions of the appropriate access tariff of the Company (either intrastate or interstate) will apply.
- 8.1.4 These Regulations and Rates are in addition to the Regulations, Rate and Charges in other Company tariffs.

### **SECTION 8 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES, (CONT'D.)**

## 8.1 Wireless Termination Service, (cont'd.)

- 8.1.5 This tariff applies except as otherwise provided in 1) an interconnection agreement between the CMRS provider and the Company approved by the Commission pursuant to the Act; or 2) a terminating traffic agreement between the CMRS provider and the Company approved by the Commission.
- 8.1.6 The Company shall issue a bill to the CMRS provider based on the best information available to the Company including, but not limited to, records of terminating traffic created by the Company at its end office or tandem switch. If possible, the CMRS provider will provide to the Company billing records in standard industry formats regarding calls it originates that terminate on the Company's network, Records will be provided at an individual call detail record, if possible, with sufficient information to identify the specific date and time of the call, the call duration, and the originating and terminating numbers. If a CMRS provider is unable to provide billing records of the calls that it originates to the Company, the Company may use usage reports and/or records generated by a third party ILEC whose network is used to transit the traffic as the basis for billing the CMRS provider. If the CMRS provider is unable to provide billing records, the CMRS provider will have the responsibility of providing, on a quarterly basis (or as otherwise agreed to by the Company), a report to the Company providing the percentage of the CMRS provider's traffic terminated to the Company that is intraMTA or interMTA traffic. The report will also detail what percentage of the interMTA traffic is intrastate and what percentage is interstate.

Such reports shall be based on studies of actual traffic originated by the CMRS provider and terminated to the Company.

## **SECTION 8 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES, (CONT'D.)**

### 8.1 Wireless Termination Service, (cont'd.)

Issued By:

8.1.7 Reports regarding the percentages of intraMTA or interMTA traffic (and the intrastate or interstate jurisdiction of interMTA traffic) shall be based on a reasonable traffic study conducted by the CMRS providers and available to the Company upon request. Such studies shall be conducted no less frequently than once each quarter to ensure that the CMRS provider is using an accurate intraMTA/interMTA percentage. The CMRS provider shall pay the Company for all charges in accordance with the rates set forth in this tariff. Such payments are to be received within thirty (30) days from the effective date of the billing statement. The CMRS provider shall pay a late charge on any undisputed charges which are not paid within the thirty (30) day period.

The rate of the late charge shall be the lesser of 1.5% per month or the maximum amount allowed by law. The CMRS provider shall pay the Company the reasonable amount of the Company's expenses related to collection of overdue bills, such amounts to include reasonable attorney fees. The CMRS provider will be responsible for the accuracy and quality of its data as submitted to the Company. Upon reasonable written notice, the Company or its authorized representative shall have the right to conduct a review and verification of the CMRS provider to give assurances of compliance with the provisions of this tariff. This includes on-site verification reviews at the CMRS provider's or vendor locations. The review may consist of an examination and verification of data involving records, systems, procedures and other information related to the traffic originated by the CMRS provider and terminated to the Company. The CMRS provider will provide the Company with reasonable access to such information as is necessary to determine amounts payable under this tariff.

8.1.8 If the CMRS provider fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this tariff, including any payments to be made by it on the dates and times herein specified, the Company, may on five (5) day's written notice by Certified U.S. Mail to the CMRS provider, refuse additional applications for service and/or refuse to complete any pending orders for service by the non-complying CMRS provider at any time thereafter, or may discontinue the provision of the services to the non-complying CMRS provider at any time thereafter. In the case of such discontinuance, all applicable tariff charges shall become due. If the Company is unable to effectuate discontinuance of service at its own office it may request the assistance of other LECs with whom the Company's network is connected.

## **SECTION 8 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES, (CONT'D.)**

## 8.1 Wireless Termination Service, (cont'd.)

8.1.9 Rates and Charges

Rates for termination of IntraMTA Traffic (per MOU):

\$0.0092330